[Sept. 19

SCREWWORM SURVEYS IN THE SOUTHEASTERN STATES DURING AUGUST 1950

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Screwworm surveys were continued during the month of August in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia. Surveys are now in progress in Mississippi. Observations were also made in Arkansas.

Screwworms are widely distributed throughout the Southeast. No serious outbreak has occurred due to some adverse weather conditions, the aggressive screwworm control programs of the Extension Services, the prompt treatment of many infestations, and an adequate supply of screwworm remedies.

Infestations are heavy in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, southern Mississippi, and parts of South Carolina. Infestations are seldom found in Mississippi but the survey now in progress indicates a large portion of the state is infested.

Alabama

Infestations were reported throughout the state of Alabama and very heavy in most areas. Mr. W. A. Ruffin, Extension Entomologist, reports that he knows of no county that is not infested with screwworms. Mr. C. W. Watts (believed to be with the Alabama Wildlife Service) reported to our Washington office that screwworms were serious pests in deer on one of the game reserves in Alabama.

Arkansas

Moderate to heavy infestations were reported in Howard and Yell Counties.

Florida

Screwworm infestations are general throughout the state with very heavy infestations in the north and northwestern areas. Dealers of screwworm remedies in north Florida report selling more Smear 62 than ever before. At this season of the year most of the cases have resulted from the bites of the Gulf Coast tick. Other important predisposing causes were dog bites, and snags and scratches. In Putnan and Volusia Counties, where systematic dipping for the control of cattle fever ticks is in progress, the Gulf Coast ticks have also been controlled and very few screwworm infestations were reported.

Georgia

Infestations have been found in all sections of the state being especially heavy in the southern and western portions and light in the eastern areas.

Mississippi

Surveys in Mississippi are still in progress. Information available at this time reveals very heavy infestation in some areas in the southern part of the state and light infestations in the northwestern section. Infestations were reported in a large number of counties.

North Carolina

Surveys were made in 50 counties. Light to moderate infestations were reported in Henderson, Rutherford, McDowell,

Arkansas

Moderate to heavy infestations were reported in Howard and Pike Counties.

Florida

Screwworm infestations are general throughout the state with very heavy infestations in the north and northwestern areas. Outbreaks of screwworms occurred in north Florida resulting more losses to livestock than ever before. In this section of the state most of the cases have originated from the bites of the Gulf Coast tick. Other important breeding places were dog bites, and cuts and ruptures. In Dixie and Volusia Counties, where systematic dipping for the control of cattle fever ticks is in progress, the Gulf Coast tick infestations are controlled and very few screwworm infestations are reported.

Georgia

Infestations have been found in all sections of the state being especially heavy in the southern and western portions and light in the eastern areas.

Mississippi

Surveys in Mississippi are still in progress. Information available at this time reveals very heavy infestations in some areas in the southern part of the state and light infestations in the northwestern section. Infestations were reported in a large number of counties.

North Carolina

Surveys were made in 50 counties. Light to moderate infestations were reported in most areas. Gibbonsville, McDowell,

Burke, Caldwell, Wilkes, Yadkin, Forsythe, Guilford, Rockingham, Alamance, Orange, Durham, Wake, Johnson, Wayne, Lenoir, Greene, Pitt, Martin, Edgecombe, Wilson, Nash, Franklin, Warren, Vance, Chatham, Moore, and Richmond Counties.

No heavy infestations were reported.

South Carolina

Infestations continued heavy in the southeastern and central parts of the state and light in the northern section. In general, there was only a slight increase since July.

Virginia

Twenty-nine counties in Virginia were surveyed and only a few scattered cases were found in the southern area, especially in the counties of Pittsylvania, Roanoke, Buckingham, Sussex, Southampton, Greensville, and Brunswick.

West Virginia

No infestations were found in native livestock. One infestation was reported at Beckley (Raleigh County) in a bull with a travelling rodeo which had recently arrived from Chattanooga, Tennessee. This infestation was treated by a local veterinarian and no further cases developed in this area.